

A METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE SELECTIVITY OF A CATALYST
AND A PROCESS FOR THE EPOXIDATION OF AN OLEFIN

ABSTRACT

A method for improving the selectivity of a supported highly selective epoxidation catalyst comprising silver in a quantity of at most 0.17 g per m² surface area of the support, which method comprises

- 5 - contacting the catalyst, or a precursor of the catalyst comprising the silver in cationic form, with a feed comprising oxygen at a catalyst temperature above 250 °C for a duration of up to 150 hours, and
- subsequently decreasing the catalyst temperature to a
- 10 value of at most 250 °C; and

a process for the epoxidation of an olefin, which process comprises

- contacting a supported highly selective epoxidation catalyst comprising silver in a quantity of at most
- 15 0.17 g per m² surface area of the support, or a precursor of the catalyst comprising the silver in cationic form, with a feed comprising oxygen at a catalyst temperature above 250 °C for a duration of up to 150 hours, and
- subsequently decreasing the catalyst temperature to a
- 20 value of at most 250 °C and contacting the catalyst with the feed comprising the olefin and oxygen.